

A BUSINESS BAROMETER

Prices of Commodities and an Index to the Conditions Existing in the Markets

NEARLY ALL FOOD PRODUCTS ADULTERATED

Startling Statements Made by Professor Wiley, an Expert Chemist: The Rice Market—Trade Notes.

Office of The Post, Houston, Saturday, May 8.

The revelations made in the pure food investigation are something startling. One is almost inclined to the belief that to insure a pure, wholesome diet he will have to imitate the Chilean King, Nebuchadnezzar, and eat grass.

Prof. H. W. Wiley, the expert chemist who has spent years in analyzing food products sold on the markets, under oath, says that everything nowadays is adulterated. He puts it in plain English and says it is fraud. For instance, while glucose is not injurious to health nor is corn flour at the same time the purchaser is robbed because he is deceived and pays for what he does not eat.

Of maple sugar he says that more is made in Davenport, Iowa, than in the entire State of Vermont. Peanut shells and bark are used in scores of articles and coffee composed of flour and glucose is sold at 40 cents per pound. It is not poisonous, but the purchaser is simply robbed. In the jelly line, according to the professor, the content is nothing but the vine stock, simply flavored.

Trade papers are discussing the subject and think the result will be that legislation will be invoked to control the branding of all articles under their right name with heavy penalties for violations. It will be something in the nature of the obscenepornographic law in its general scope.

The Rice Market.

Dan Talmage's Sons Co. of New York say of the rice market:

Another slow disappointing week until just at the close there was a rush of orders and requests for samples. The former might be called, only a sport; but the latter gives promise of "more to follow" in way of business. Under the limited demand of the past few weeks stocks have accumulated somewhat but with abating down of shipments are not regarded as excessive, and if there is the usual spring call, further supply will have to be sought abroad. Late receipts have been largely of new crop jars and bring of more recent growth in price, but little change in quality in the matter of color. Advices from the South note movement local and to near by points, stock is limited and firmly held, as owners are quite assured that it is short of requirements up to new crop. Statements may close for the season. Encouraging reports are being received from every section regarding the crop of the current year. Seedings are steady, and a number of minor varieties being prepared that are anticipated. Cables and correspondence from abroad note unbroken demand and firm prices, more especially on rice selections. So little of the present receipts of uncleared rice are first class that millers fear to contract against future delivery in high grades.

Talmage & Sons Co., New Orleans telegraphs: "New Orleans, May 6.—No rice to date; expect about 600,000 bushels in near future. Last year 118,500 barrels. Feature demand local."

Talmage of Charleston telegraphs: "Carolina crop movement to date: Receipts cleaned, 26,255 barrels. Sales, 25,150 barrels. Fair inquiry at full values."

Coffee.

The Shoe and Leather Review says:

The market opened up stronger this week. Since our last report there were sales of hams at 25¢. Extreme light hams are reported weaker, sales having been made at 3¢. Outside of this market is stronger and is following in close touch with the packer market.

No. 1 hams 40 to 60 pounds are stronger. Three cars were sold since Saturday at 25¢-30¢ and one car at 23¢-40¢ with the No. 2 selection at 20¢.

No. 1 extreme light shades 25 to 40 pounds are still only weak in the market. At the close of last week a Milwaukee tanner secured a 5000 lb. pack.

COCOON—Per lb. No. 2, 10¢ per lb.

COCONUT—Per lb. No. 2, 10¢ per lb.

CHOCOLATE—Per lb. No. 2, 10¢ per lb.

CHOPPED COHNS—Per lb. No. 2, 10¢ per lb.

COIN—No. 2, 10¢ per lb. per lb.

OATS—Texas, 20¢-25¢ per lb.

COFFEE—Per lb. No. 2, 10¢ per lb.

COMFORTERS—Per lb. No. 2, 10¢ per lb.

CONFETTI—Per lb. No. 2, 10¢ per lb.

COOKIES—Per lb. No. 2, 10¢ per lb.

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